ASUKA COMICS DELUXE

ぼくたち男の子

5

こなみ詔子
SHOKO KONAMI

ISBN4-04-852551-4 C0979 P560E

9784048525510

1910979005601

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Us so far...

(KONAMI SHOUKO)

☆ A young girl, Asai, has come between Takashi and Tamio. But while Tamio assumes she is after Takashi, her real objective is Tamio! While arguing alone with Takashi, Asai tells Takashi that "You're nothing but his friend."

☆ Unaware of Takashi's motives, Tamio is dismayed when his friend comes to Asai's aid. That night, when Asai comes to confess, Tamio delights in the realization of his misunderstanding. However, upon seeing Takashi's cold manner the next day, Tamio is once again distressed.

☆ What will happen now that the two have graduated from middle school !?

TAMIO HASE

馳 民夫

TAKASHI FUJII

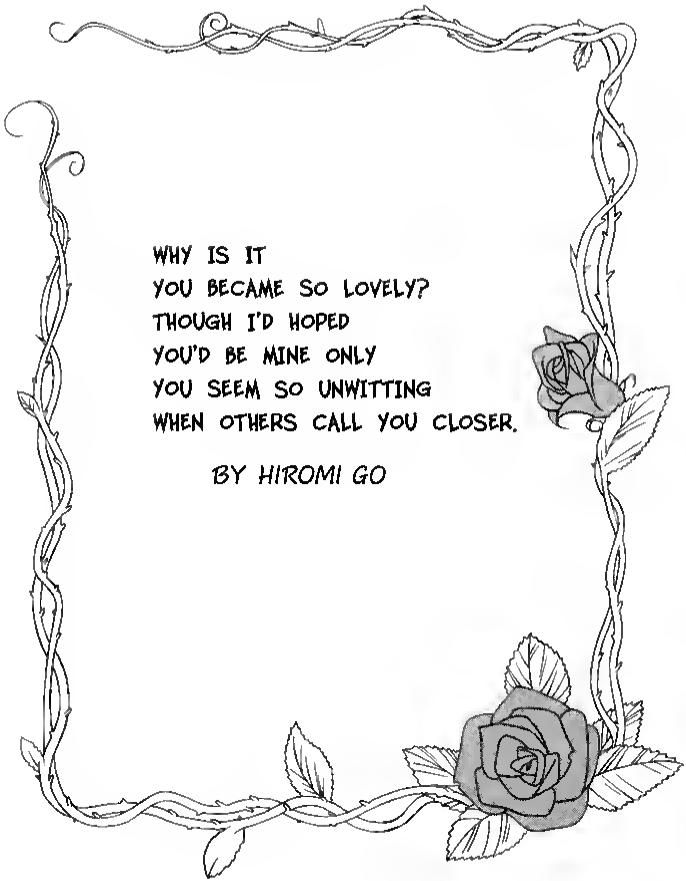
藤井敬士

KAORU ASAI

浅井 香

SCENE 17

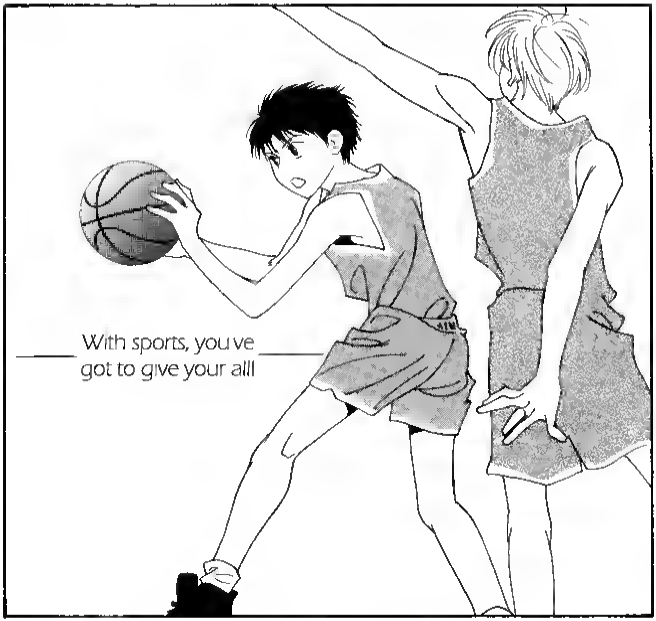
SCENE
17

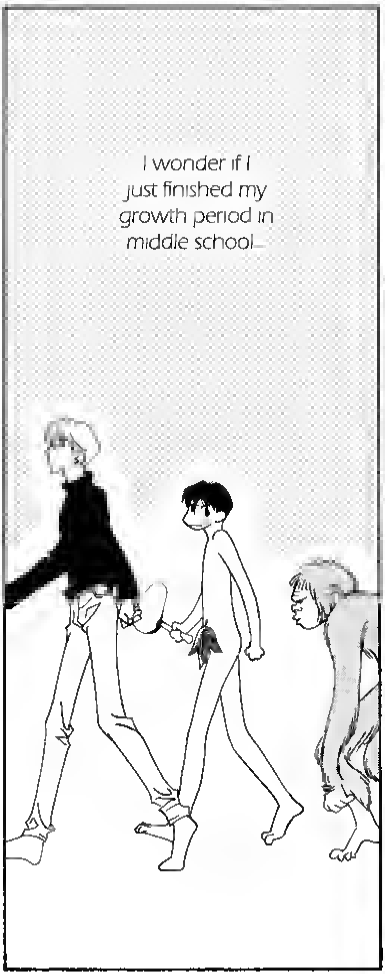


WHY IS IT
YOU BECAME SO LOVELY?
THOUGH I'D HOPED
YOU'D BE MINE ONLY
YOU SEEM SO UNWITTING
WHEN OTHERS CALL YOU CLOSER.

BY HIROMI GO

音楽著作権協会(出)許諾9501955 501号

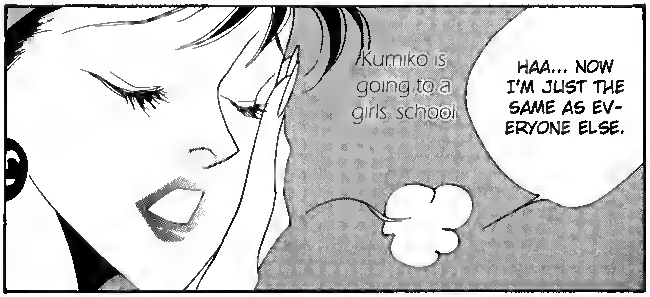

With sports, you've got to give your all!!


I wonder if I just finished my growth period in middle school...

But the goal is always so far away

DON'T JUST STAND THERE! PAY ATTENTION!
As for Takashi...

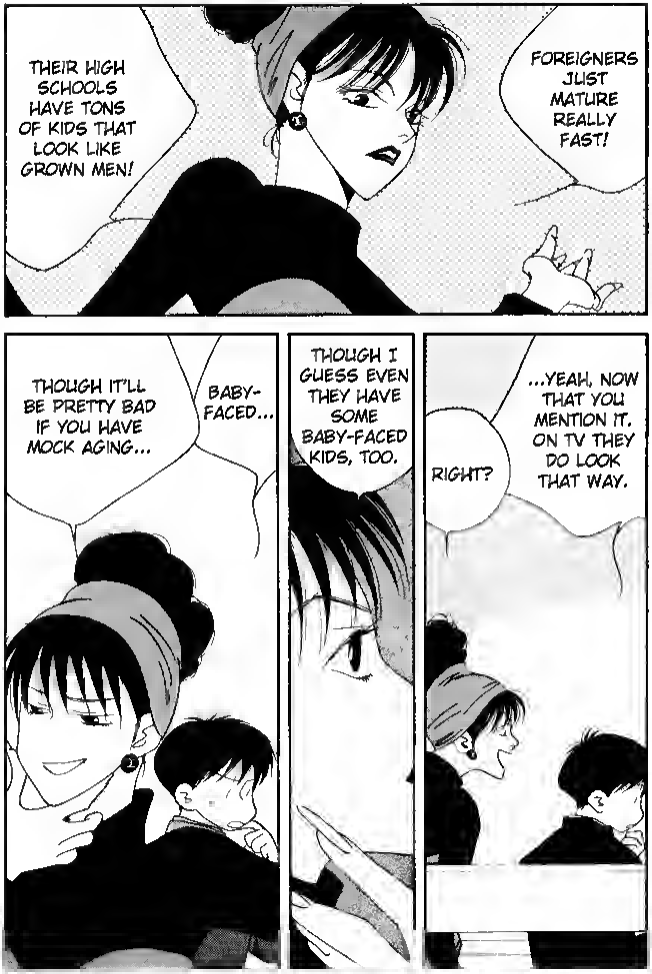
He's gotten absurdly big
Foreigners really are something else

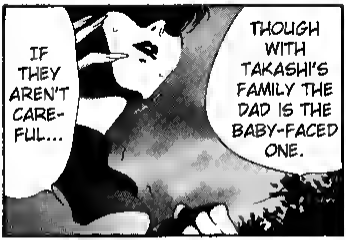

Kumiko is going to a girls school
HAA... NOW I'M JUST THE SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE.

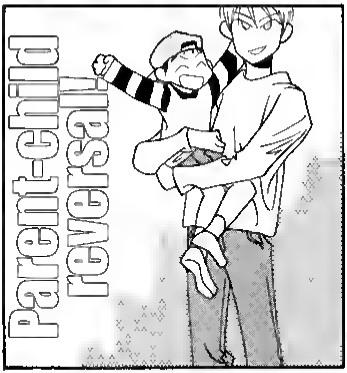
I DON'T STAND OUT AT ALL.
It's really unsettling
...I SEE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
EVERYONE'S GETTING SO MUCH BIGGER. NOW...

WELL, THAT'S HOW IT IS WHEN ALL THE FLOWERS ARE GONE!
...IT'S VERY BLACK.
Hohoho!
Hm
ARE YOU GETTING USED TO YOUR BOYS' SCHOOL?
In our district there's nothing but all girls' schools and all boys' schools, so of course Takashi and I
I RAN INTO TAKASHI AT THE BOOK STORE EARLIER.
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT!? HE'S LIKE SIX FEET TALL!
Hmph
HE'S ACTUALLY DEVELOPING A LOT SLOWER THAN I THOUGHT HE WOULD.


THEIR HIGH SCHOOLS HAVE TONS OF KIDS THAT LOOK LIKE GROWN MEN!
FOREIGNERS JUST MATURE REALLY FAST!
THOUGH IT'LL BE PRETTY BAD IF YOU HAVE MOCK AGING...
BABY-FACED...
THOUGH I GUESS EVEN THEY HAVE SOME BABY-FACED KIDS, TOO.
...YEAH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT. ON TV THEY DO LOOK THAT WAY.
RIGHT?


IF THEY AREN'T CARE-FUL...
THOUGH WITH TAKASHI'S FAMILY THE DAD IS THE BABY-FACED ONE.


Parent-child reversal!!

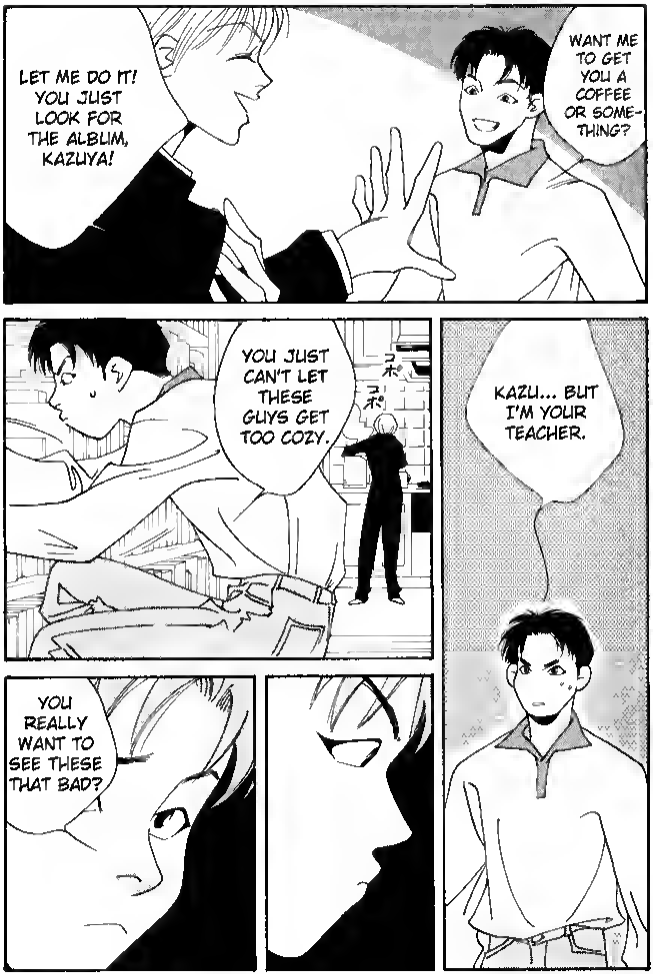
WHEN YOU KEEP YOUR BABY FACE BUT THEN GET OLD REALLY SUD-DENLY, WHEN YOU'RE LIKE 20 YEARS OLD.
M-MOCK AGING?

YOU SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT PEOPLE BEHIND THEIR BACKS.

AH, RIGHT! I'M COMING!
TAKASHI!
WHAT'S ALL THIS TALK ABOUT BABY FACES, ANYWAY? DOES YOUR FAMILY EVEN OWN A MIRROR!!?
IT WASN'T ME! KUMIKO WAS THE ONE SAYING ALL THAT...
AH...
A-AND WHO'S THIS?

HE'S TOTALLY MY TYPE! DO YOU KNOW HIM, TAMIO? YOU'VE GOT TO INTRODUCE US!
SEE YA, TAMIO.
I SEE. DOES HE HAVE A NAME?
THAT'S WHY TAKASHI'S BUDDYING UP WITH HIM SO MUCH.
チョイー
イン
HE... HE'S OUR TEACHER. HE MOVED HERE FROM TOKYO.

201
中村一哉
SO WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
WHY WOULD YOU EVEN WANT TO SEE MY SCHOOL PICTURES, ANYWAY?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, JUST LET ME HAVE A LOOK!
Don't hold back on me now!


LET ME DO IT! YOU JUST LOOK FOR THE ALBUM, KAZUYA!
WANT ME TO GET YOU A COFFEE OR SOMETHING?
YOU JUST CAN'T LET THESE GUYS GET TOO COZY.
コポ
コポ
KAZU... BUT I'M YOUR TEACHER.
YOU REALLY WANT TO SEE THESE THAT BAD?

YEAH!
WHY?
I'M JUST CURIOUS!
...

AH... HERE THEY ARE.
AWE-SOME!
CURIOUS...
ずず"

HOW COME?
Y-YOU'RE ALREADY LEAVING? BUT YOU JUST GOT HERE.
EH?
I'M GOING HOME.
I LOST MY CURIOSITY.
CURIOSITY...

カッ…ガァン
WHAT IS THERE FOR HIM EVEN TO BE CURIOUS ABOUT!?

I WANTED TO TAKE A LOOK AT HIS PICTURES.
BUT WHY!?
WAIT, YOU WENT TO SENSEI'S HOUSE YESTERDAY?
SINCE BEFORE HE SAID HE WENT TO TOKYO UNIVERSITY.
WHEN HE WAS IN SCHOOL.
WHAT KIND?
PICTURES ...

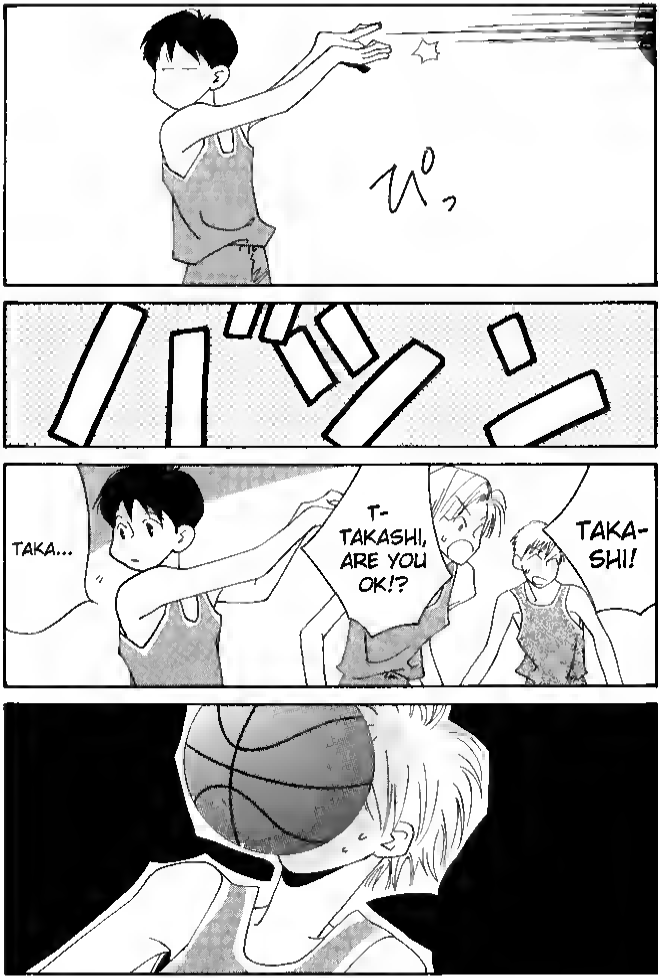
DOING THIS KIND OF THING!
BUT ALL HE HAD WAS A BUNCH OF PICTURES OF HIS ROOMMATES AND STUFF.
YOU TAKE THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU...
...WELL, THAT'S HOW MOST PEOPLE TAKE PICTURES, ISN'T IT?
I THOUGHT THERE'D BE MORE PICTURES OF THE CITY AND THINGS, BUT THERE WASN'T EVEN ONE.
AS SOON AS I SAW THEM I REALIZED.
YEAH, I KNOW! IT WAS PRETTY DUMB.

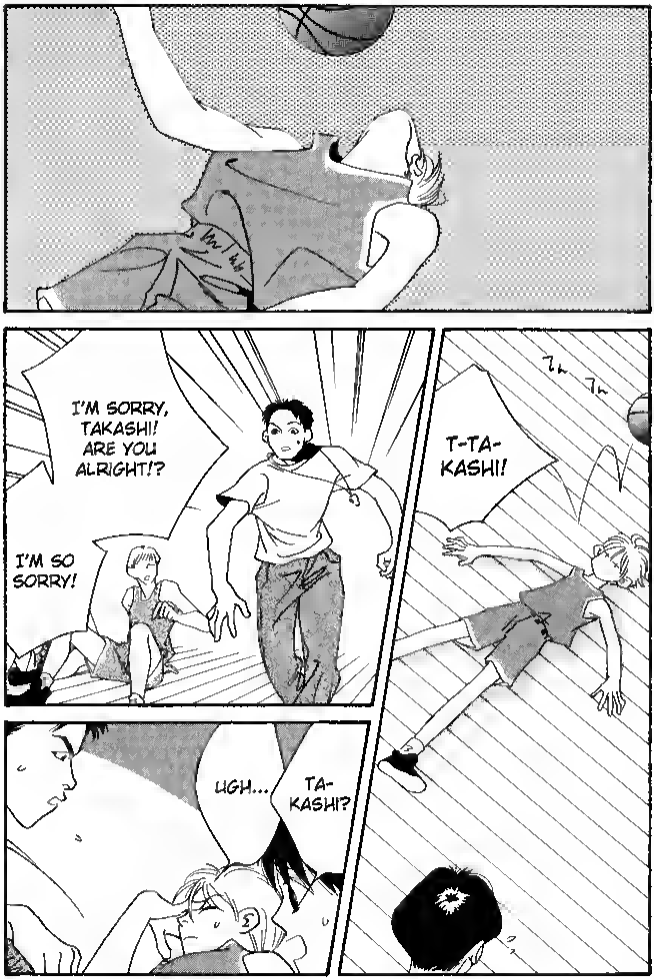
I GUESS SINCE HE'S NOT A GIRL IT'D BE CONSIDERED OK, BUT...
BUT. GOING ALL THE WAY TO HIS HOUSE TO SEE THEM...
Note: Yan-s the Kansai-ben equivalent of san
I'M YOU'RE TEACHER. YOU SHOULD CALL ME SENSE...
LOOK.
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE EARLY, KAZU-YAN?
ALRIGHT, SIT DOWN.
ガラ

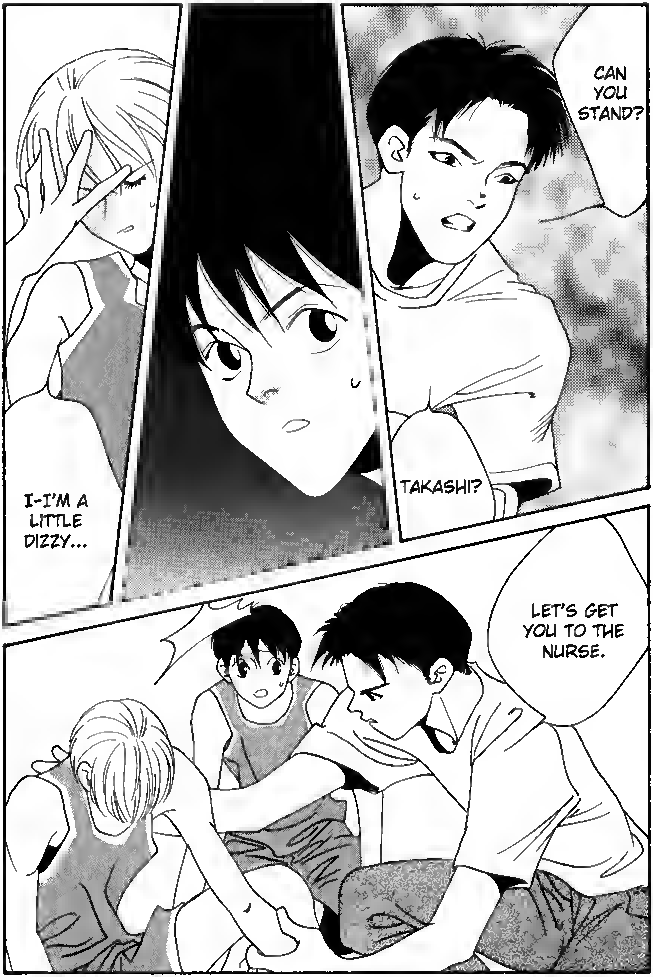
....
WHAT?
T-TAKASHI ABOUT YESTERDAY...
EH?
WELL, IT'S JUST...
AH. NOTHING, REALLY. FORGET ABOUT IT.

WHAT WAS THAT!?
WHAT ABOUT YESTERDAY!?
I'm taking roll
Only answer for your own name!
WHAT!?
?
WHY WAS HE BLUSHING!?

WHAT ABOUT YESTERDAY WAS MAKING HIM BLUSH!?
TAMIO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? PASS THE BALL, COME ON!
TAMIO, YOU DUM-BASS!
...
PASS IT, MAN!


ぴっ
バゴン
TAKA...
T-TAKASHI, ARE YOU OK!?
TAKA-SHI!


I'M SORRY, TAKASHI! ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
I'M SO SORRY!
T-TA-KASHI!
UGH...
TA-KASHI?


CAN YOU STAND?
TAKASHI?
I-I'M A LITTLE DIZZY...
LET'S GET YOU TO THE NURSE.

I'LL TAKE HIM MYSELF!
I-I'LL...!
...
BUT YOU CAN'T EVEN DO IT.

...!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I CAN'T DO IT!?
LET'S GO, TAKASHI.
MM...

KAH...
!

URK...
ずしり
THUD!

SCENE•17——END

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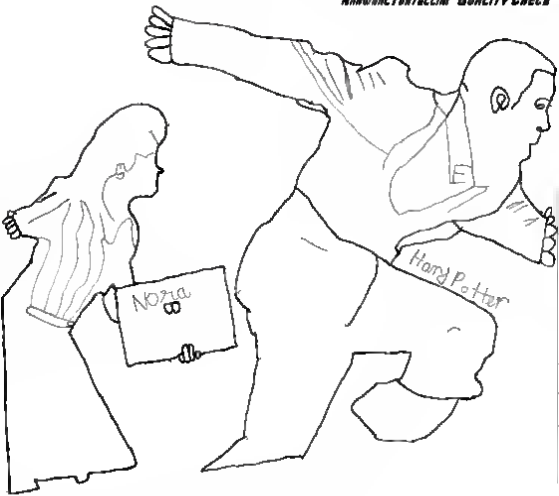
NarwhalTortellim Scanner
NarwhalTortellim Translator
Arianna Editor
NarwhalTortellim Quality Check



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SCENE
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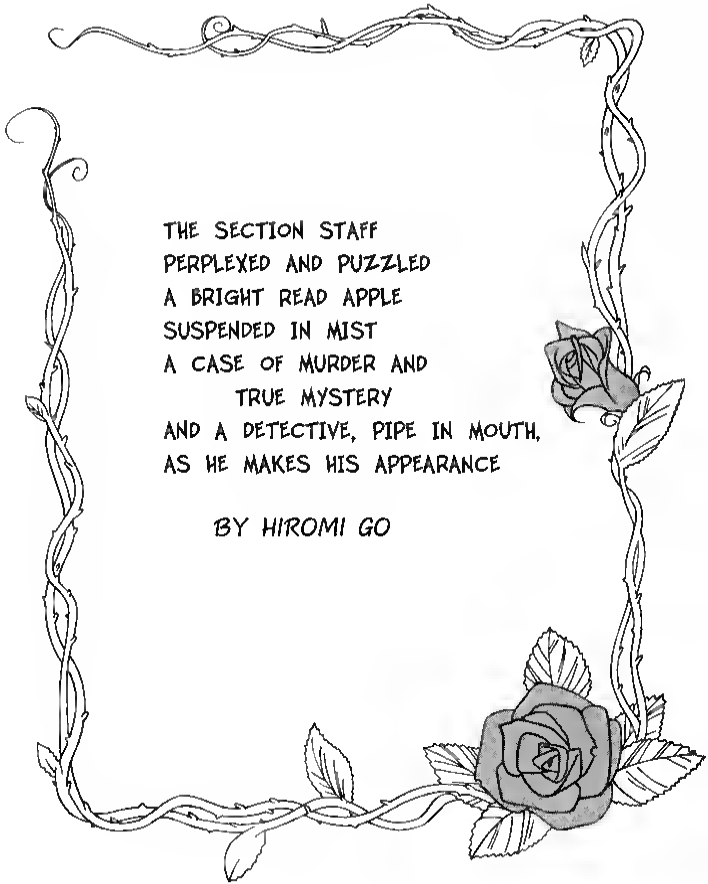
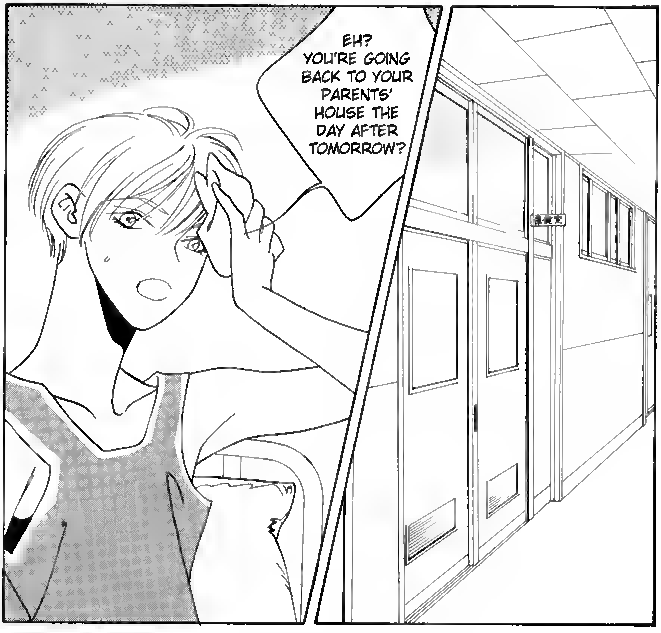
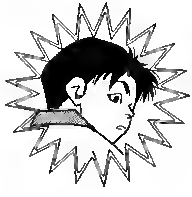


THE SECTION STAFF
PERPLEXED AND PUZZLED
A BRIGHT READ APPLE
SUSPENDED IN MIST
A CASE OF MURDER AND
TRUE MYSTERY
AND A DETECTIVE, PIPE IN MOUTH,
AS HE MAKES HIS APPEARANCE

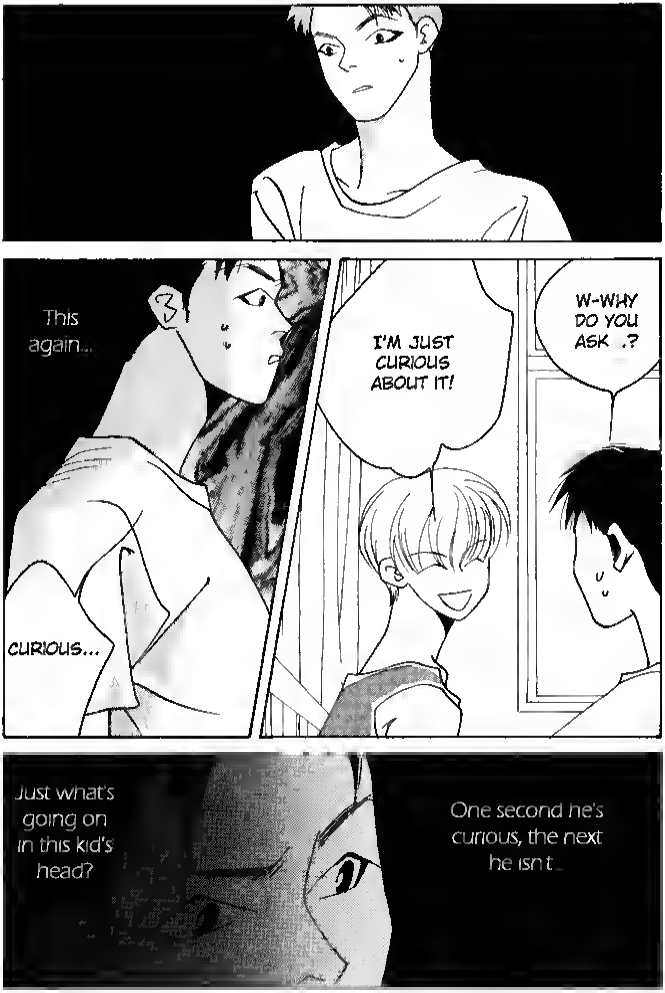
BY HIROMI GO

著作権協会(出)許諾9501935-501号


EH? YOU'RE GOING BACK TO YOUR PARENTS' HOUSE THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW?



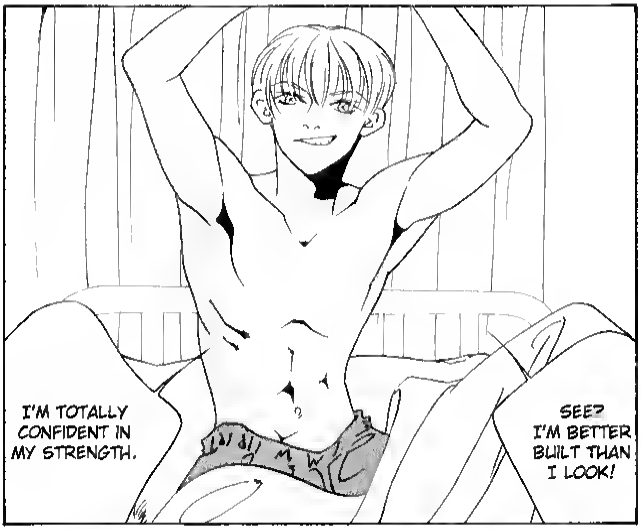
Y-YOU'RE PARENTS LIVE IN TOKYO, RIGHT?
I'VE JUST GOT SOME STUFF TO TAKE CARE OF.
...AND I'LL BE COMING BACK THE VERY NEXT DAY.
OF COURSE.
Y-YOU THINK I COULD COME, TOO!?

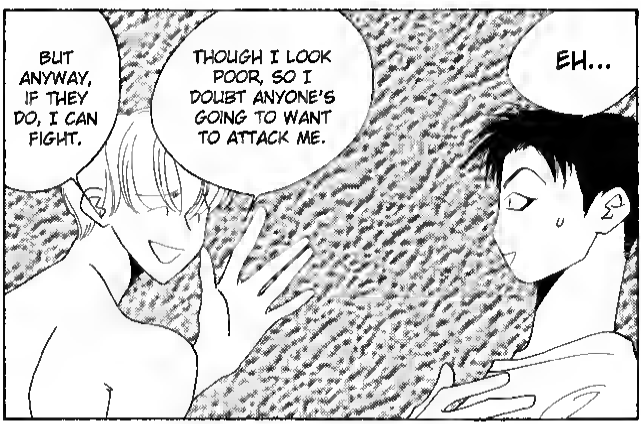

This again...
CURIOUS...
I'M JUST CURIOUS ABOUT IT!
W-WHY DO YOU ASK .?
Just what's going on in this kid's head?
One second he's curious, the next he isn't.

I CAN'T TAKE YOU WITH ME.
IT'S TOO FAR. AND BESIDES, I DON'T WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE,
IF SOMETHING ENDS UP HAPPENING.
SOMETHING?
SOMETHING LIKE WHAT?
WELL, I MEAN...
LIKE ASSAULT OR SOMETHING?

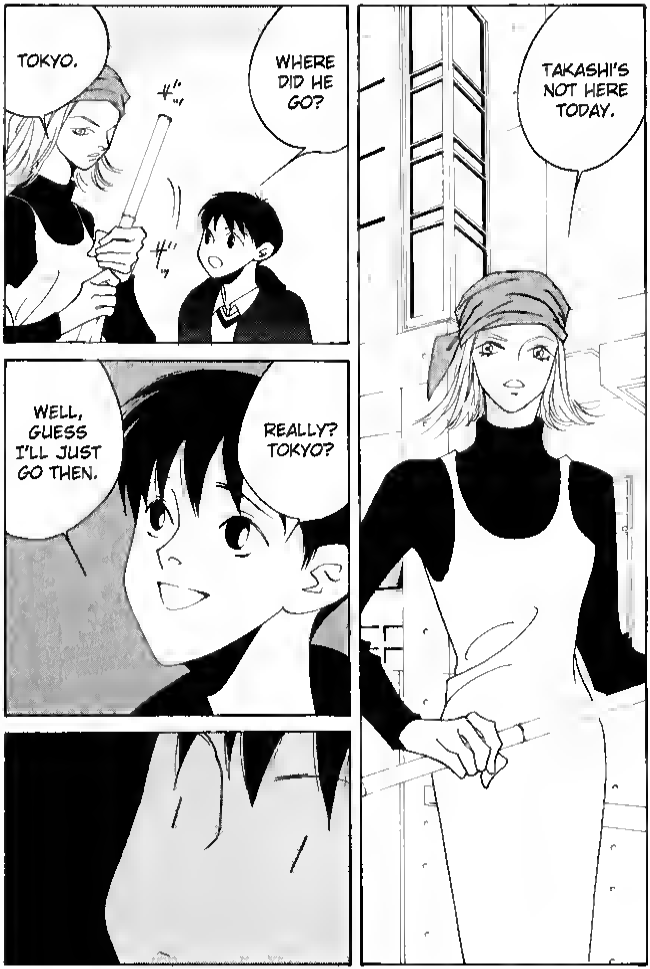
WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A LOOK?
ASSAUL-
...
A....

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!? DO YOU REALIZE WHERE WE...!?
!

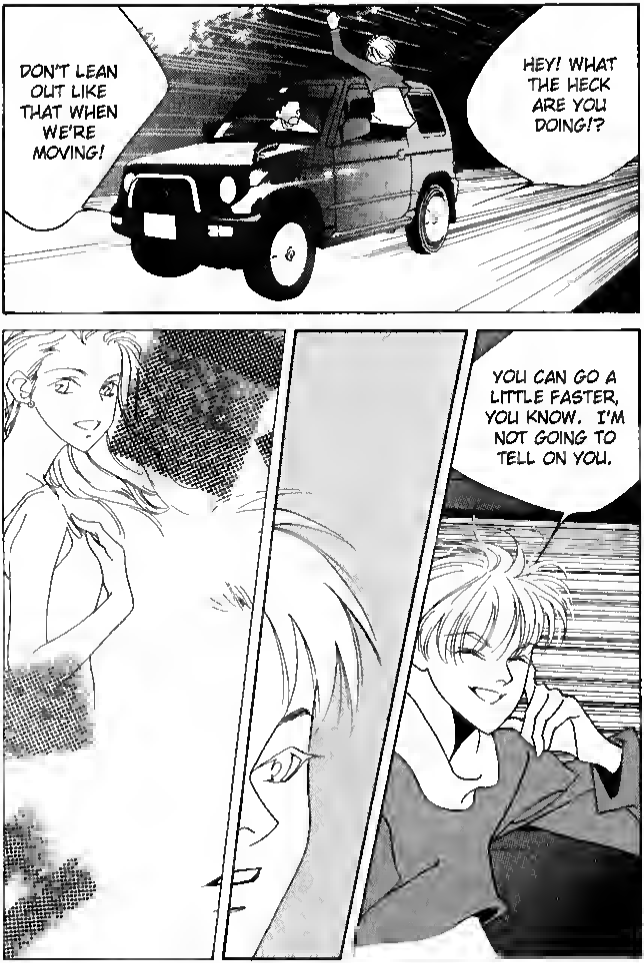

I'M TOTALLY CONFIDENT IN MY STRENGTH.
SEE? I'M BETTER BUILT THAN I LOOK!

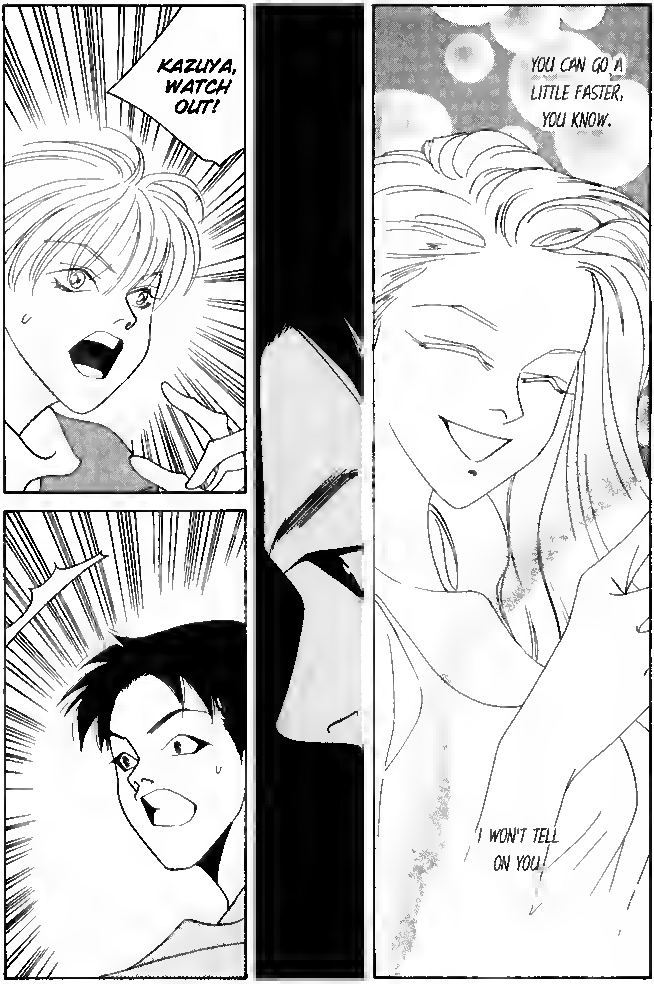

BUT ANYWAY, IF THEY DO, I CAN FIGHT.
THOUGH I LOOK POOR, SO I DOUBT ANYONE'S GOING TO WANT TO ATTACK ME.
EH...

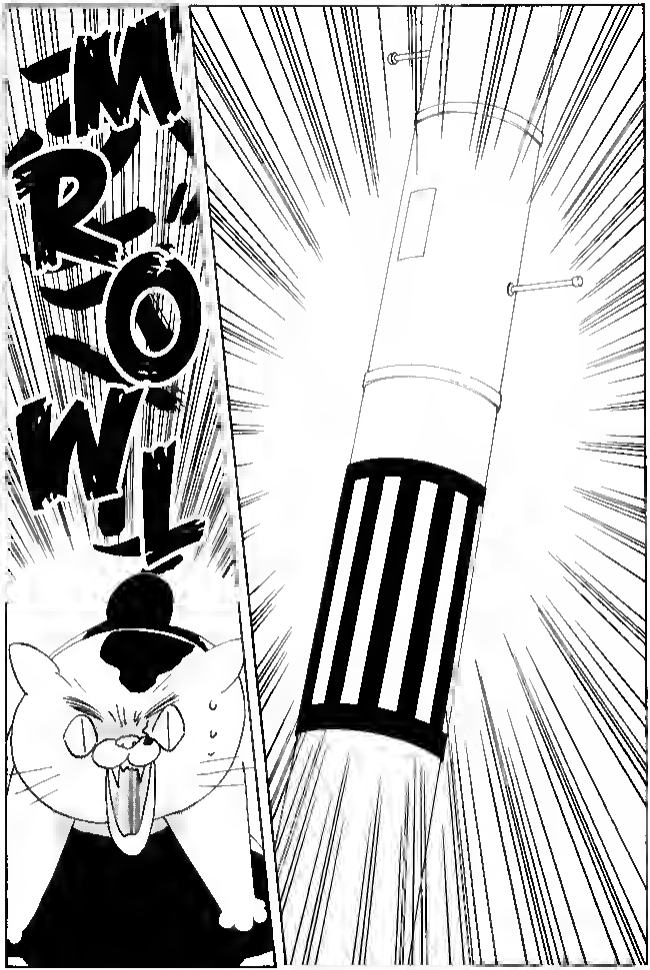
AH...
I SEE...
...ALRIGHT. I'LL TALK TO MY PARENTS


TAKASHI'S NOT HERE TODAY.
WHERE DID HE GO?
TOKYO.
REALLY? TOKYO?
WELL, GUESS I'LL JUST GO THEN.

TOKYO!?


DON'T LEAN OUT LIKE THAT WHEN WE'RE MOVING!
HEY! WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING!?
YOU CAN GO A LITTLE FASTER, YOU KNOW. I'M NOT GOING TO TELL ON YOU.


KAZUYA, WATCH OUT!
YOU CAN GO A LITTLE FASTER, YOU KNOW.
I WON'T TELL ON YOU!


I'M
ROWL

YOU COULDN'T...
ぶるぶる
ぶるぶる
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
N-NORTH SEA.
YOU COULDN'T BE HUNGRY, COULD YOU?

...TAKASHI...

COULD SOMETHING HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM...

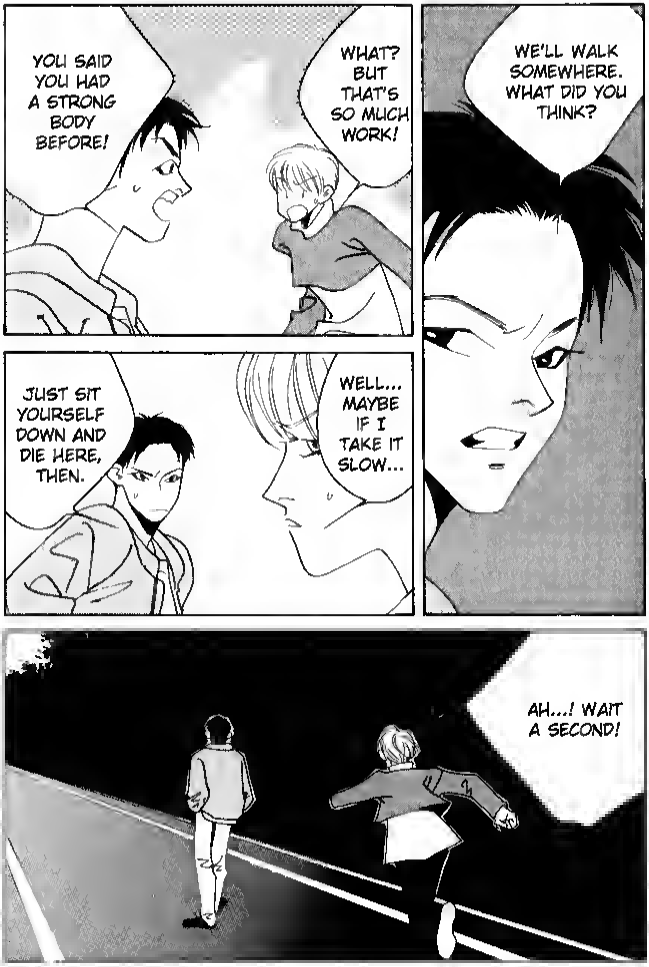
I'M
RE
O
WL

ブァー
URK...
...ARE YOU OK, TAKASHI?

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT THAT?
HA...

I'LL JUST HAVE TO CALL SOMEONE TO PULL THE CAR UP.
...IT'S LUCKY NEITHER OF US WAS HURT, ANYWAY.

CALL...?
FROM WHERE?


YOU SAID YOU HAD A STRONG BODY BEFORE!
WHAT? BUT THAT'S SO MUCH WORK!
WE'LL WALK SOMEWHERE. WHAT DID YOU THINK?
JUST SIT YOURSELF DOWN AND DIE HERE, THEN.
WELL... MAYBE IF I TAKE IT SLOW...
AH...! WAIT A SECOND!

OK. THIS IS A PAPER THAT SENSEI GAVE TO ME.
AND THESE ARE TAKASHI'S SHOES
TAKE A GOOD WHIFF!
....
ALRIGHT, NOW FIND THEM!

YOU CAN FIND THEM FOR SURE!
YOU CAN DO IT! YOUR SENSE OF SMELL IS 3000 TIMES BETTER THAN A HUMAN'S!
EH?
SO THE CAT IS JUST 100 TIMES...
ER, NOW THAT I LOOK CLOSER, IT'S THE DOG THAT'S 3000 TIMES BETTER.

STILL, IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S GETTING INTO IT.
SO.. MAYBE IT'LL BE OK!
WHAT'S GOING ON...

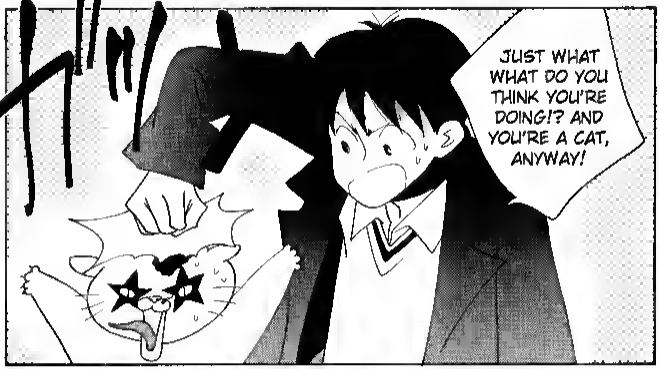
ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T TAKE A WRONG TURN?
JUST HOW LONG DO WE HAVE TO KEEP WALKING TO FIND SOMEONE'S HOUSE?
YOU ALWAYS WANT TO REST. LOOK, THERE AREN'T ANY PLACES AROUND HERE WE CAN EVEN TAKE A ...
SAY, HOW ABOUT A REST? WE COULD REST!

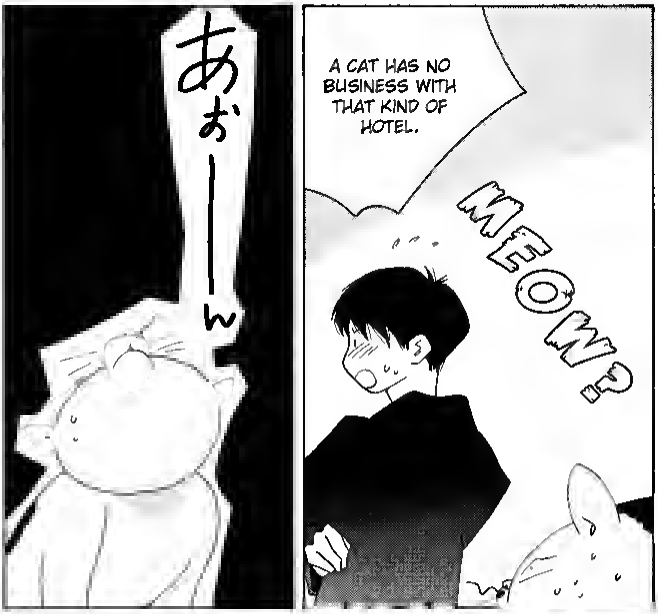
LOOK! IT EVEN SAYS WE'LL NEVER HAVE A MORE SATISFYING REST!
....
...REST.
HOTEL
Hello Room

W-WAIT A SECOND! THIS PLACE IS...
COME ON, LET'S GO!
THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF REST IT'S TALKING ABOUT...!
...THAT'S NOT IT...

....
ぴょんっ!
JUST HOW FAR ARE YOU TAKING ME, NORTH SEA?
THIS ISN'T GOOD. IT'S ALREADY DARK...
ふかが
ふかが

HOTEL
Hello Room
カー
AH.


JUST WHAT WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!? AND YOU'RE A CAT, ANYWAY!


あぉーーん
A CAT HAS NO BUSINESS WITH THAT KIND OF HOTEL.
MEOW?

HOTEL
Hello Poem
ニャー
ニャッ
... NORTH SEA?

SCENE•18——END

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NarwhalTortellim Scanner
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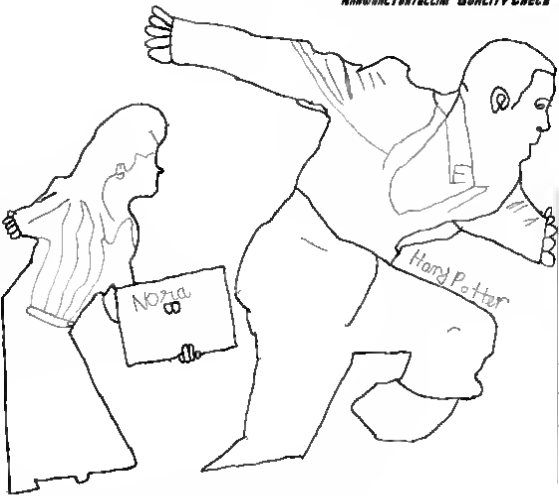
Arianna Editor
NarwhalTortellim Quality Check



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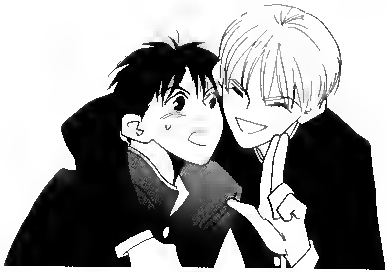
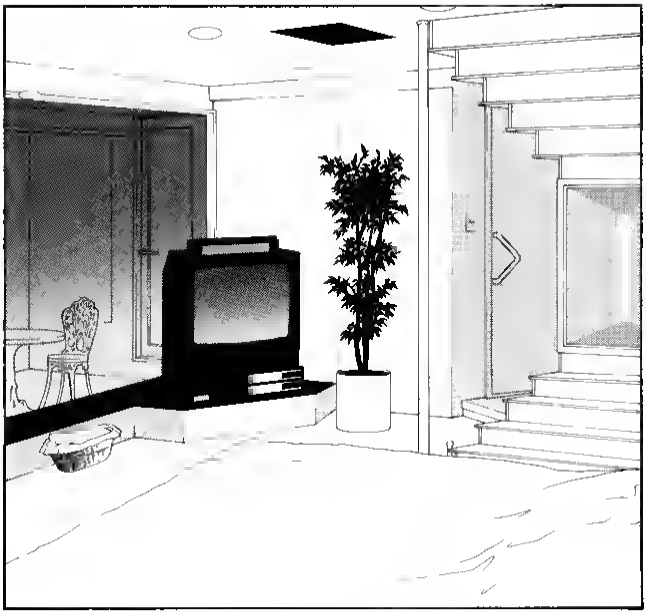
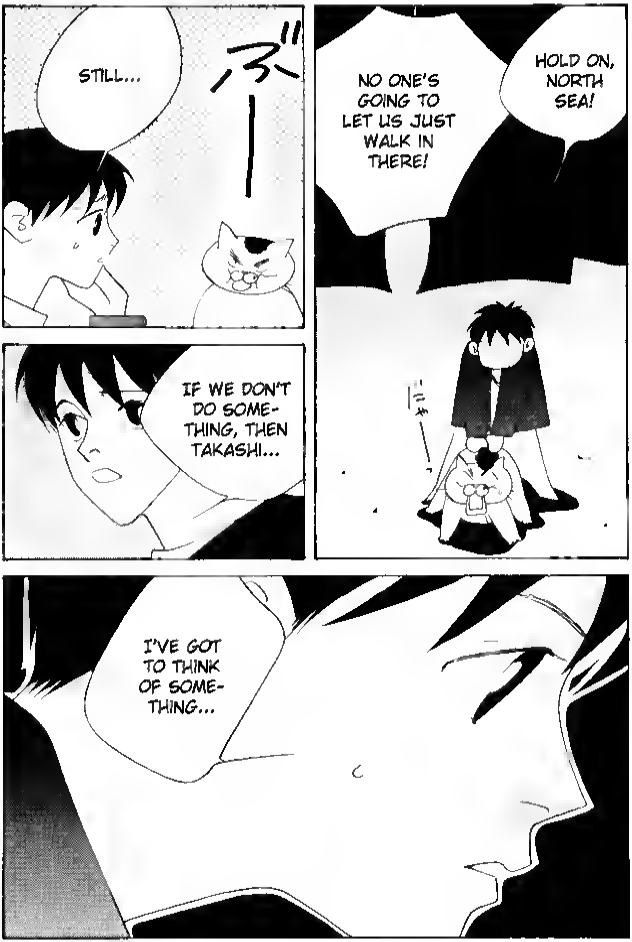


著作権法により無断複写・複製・転載・翻訳・データ入力等を禁じます。
若者著作権協会(出)許諾8501535-501号



キク
EH!? THIS ISN'T GOOD, KAZUYA!
R-RIGHT!? I TOLD YOU BEFORE, DIDN'T I!? THIS PLACE IS...

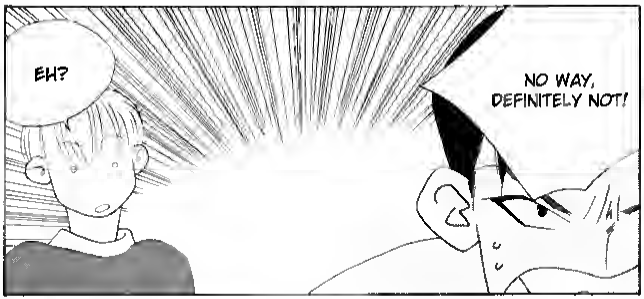
WHAT!?
I TRIED TO CALL THE FRONT DESK AND ASK TO CHANGE US TO TWIN BEDS, BUT THEY WON'T DO IT!
カチャ
がしっ


STILL...
ぶー
HOLD ON, NORTH SEA!
NO ONE'S GOING TO LET US JUST WALK IN THERE!
IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING, THEN TAKASHI...
I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING...

IT'S NOT THAT KIND OF HOTEL, OK?
...LOOK.
Ah... Does he finally get it?
I-I...
OH...

..I GIVE UP.
BUT SINCE IT'S HERE MAYBE I SHOULD GIVE IT A TRY, RIGHT?
OH, WOW, THERE'S KARAOKE! I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE...
Doing it the first time's always embarrassing.
IS HE PLAYING DUMB ON PURPOSE?
BUT THEN WHY WOULD HE?

Could that really be what he's after...?
A STUDENT AND HIS TEACHER!
How filthy!
Oh, dear
AND BOTH MEN!
Why
...IS THAT OK, KAZUYA?
ドキ


EH?
NO WAY, DEFINITELY NOT!

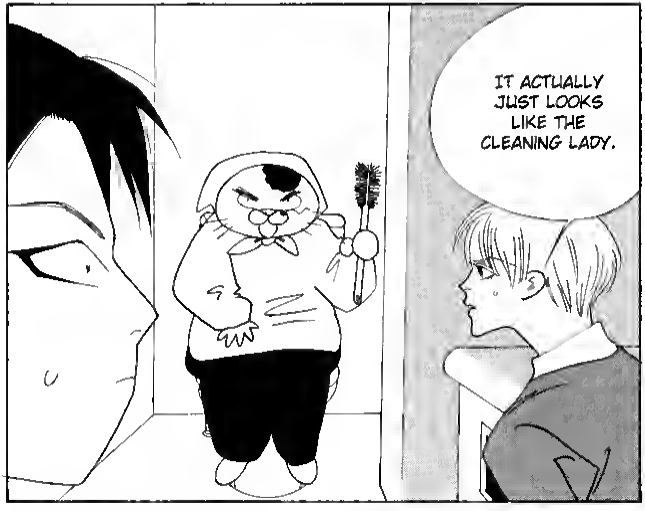
IT'LL BE EVEN WORSE IF WE DO!
BUT IF I DON'T IT'LL GET SO BAD...

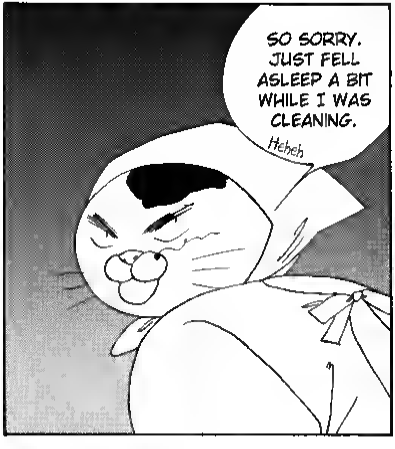
DON'T YOU GET IT? DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?
BUT I...

AAH! DON'T TOUCH ME!
IT'S NO GOOD, I CAN'T HOLD BACK ANY-MORE!
バタン!
EH?
だーーー

Eeeek!
...THE BATH-ROOM?
T-THERE'S SOMEONE IN THE BATH-ROOM!

KAZUYA, THERE'S SOMEONE THERE!
WHAT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU DO HEAR ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING IN HOTELS LIKE THIS...
THAT SORT OF... YOU DON'T MEAN...
BUT REALLY...


IT ACTUALLY JUST LOOKS LIKE THE CLEANING LADY.


SO SORRY. JUST FELL ASLEEP A BIT WHILE I WAS CLEANING.
Hehehe

EXCUSE ME.

THOUGH I MUST SAY,
ARE NOT THE TWO OF YOU BOTH MEN?
WELL, YEAH...
AND DID YOU FILL THAT OUT ON YOUR FORM?
That the both of you are male.

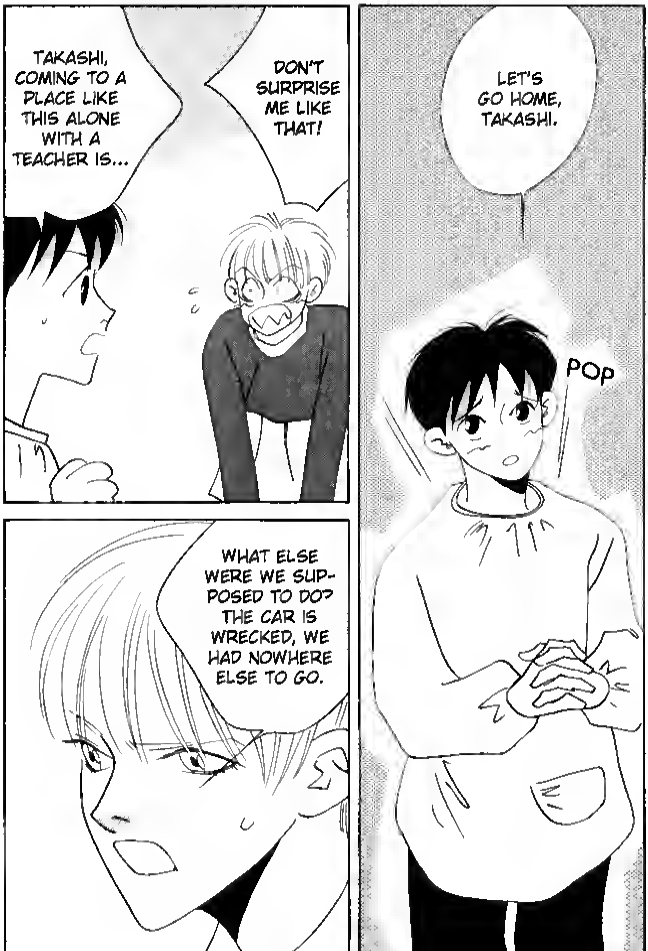
Uchida Yuki – A Japanese actress, idol, model, and singer popular in the 90s

はくっ
MROW!
...
STUPID CAT, I TOLD YOU NOT TO MAKE ANY NOISE!

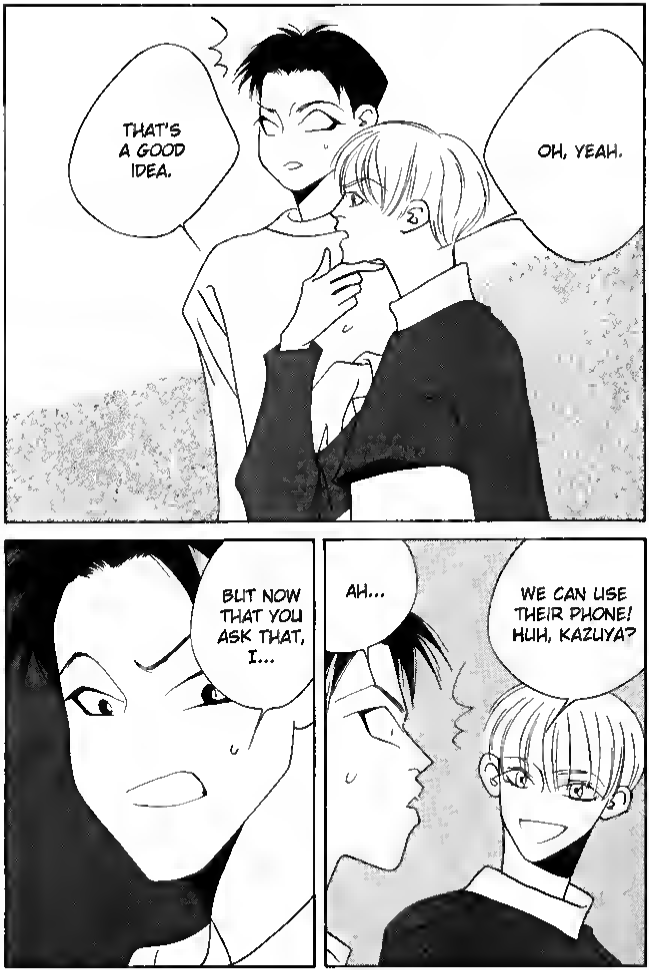
...NORTH SEA?
....
ぷく
ぷく
....

mreow!
...CATNIP.
purr
purr

....
TAMIO...!
Eek!


LET'S GO HOME, TAKASHI.
POP
DON'T SURPRISE ME LIKE THAT!
TAKASHI, COMING TO A PLACE LIKE THIS ALONE WITH A TEACHER IS...
WHAT ELSE WERE WE SUPPOSED TO DO? THE CAR IS WRECKED, WE HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.

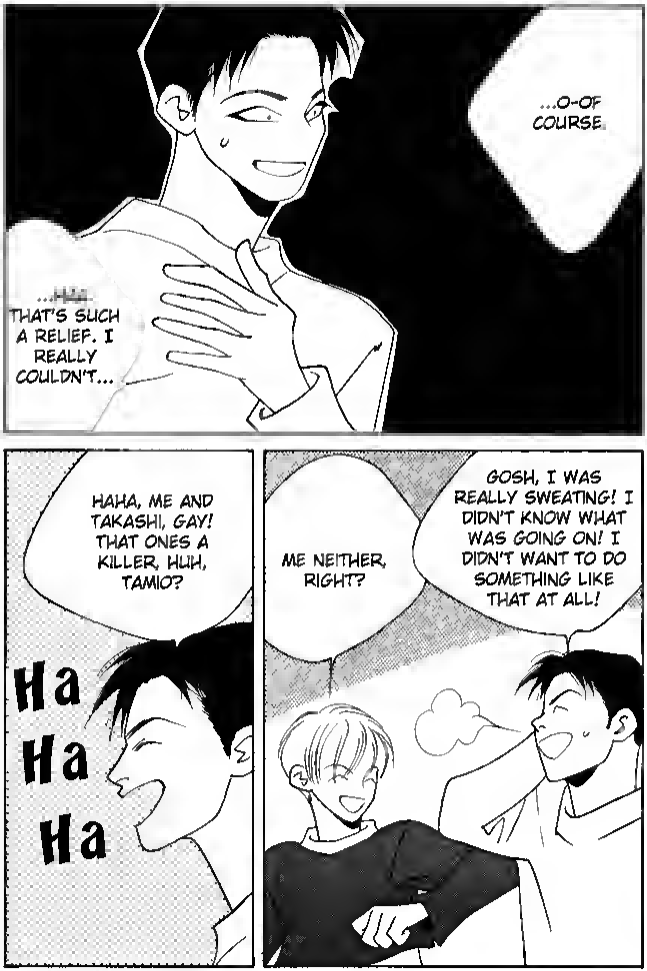
W-WELL, WE...
B-BUT COULDN'T YOU HAVE JUST USED THEIR PHONE, THEN?
WHY'D YOU HAVE TO STOP AND SPEND THE NIGHT...


THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
OH, YEAH.
BUT NOW THAT YOU ASK THAT, I...
AH...
WE CAN USE THEIR PHONE! HUH, KAZUYA?

WHY DID I TAKE US BOTH HERE?
I COULDN'T HAVE...
COULDN'T HAVE...?
キ-ィ

AH!?
KAZUYA, JUST WHAT WERE YOU THINKING!? DID YOU...

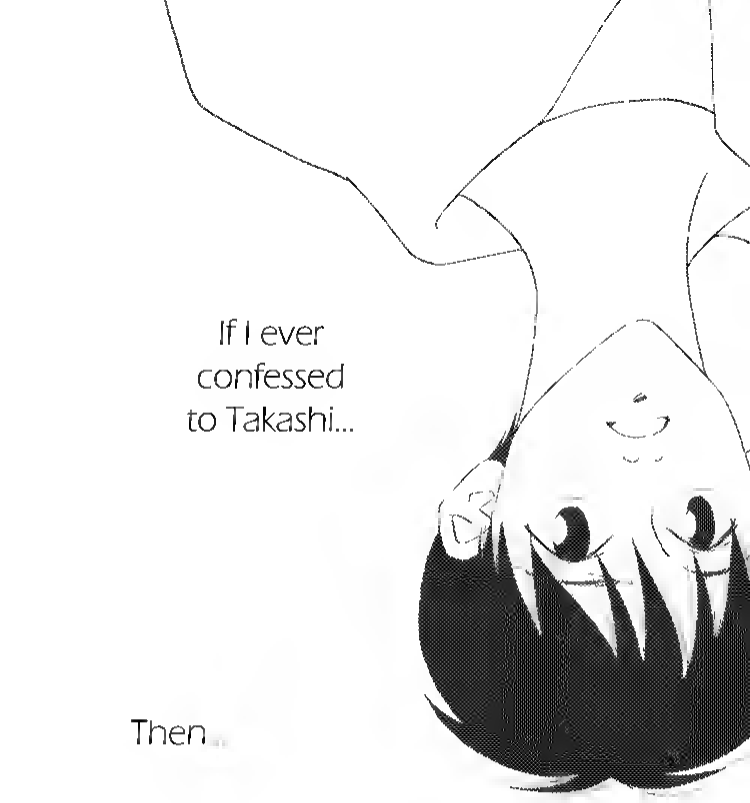
TWO GUYS!? I'D NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
THAT'S DISGUSTING!


...O-OF COURSE.
...Huh. THAT'S SUCH A RELIEF. I REALLY COULDN'T...
HAHA, ME AND TAKASHI, GAY! THAT ONES A KILLER, HUH, TAMIO?
Ha Ha Ha
ME NEITHER, RIGHT?
GOSH, I WAS REALLY SWEATING! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON! I DIDN'T WANT TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT AT ALL!

IS SOMETHING WRONG?
YEAH...

...NO. IT'S NOTHING.

Takashi...


If I ever
confessed
to Takashi...
Then...

"That's disgusting!"

..Is that what he'd say?

But then...

What should I do? Is it better...

To just stay friends like this forever?

SCENE•19——END

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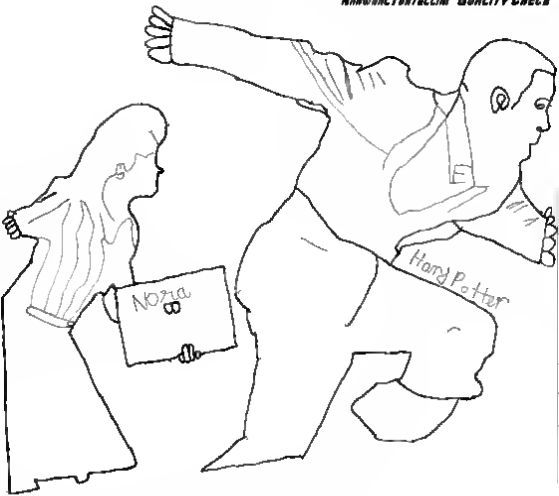

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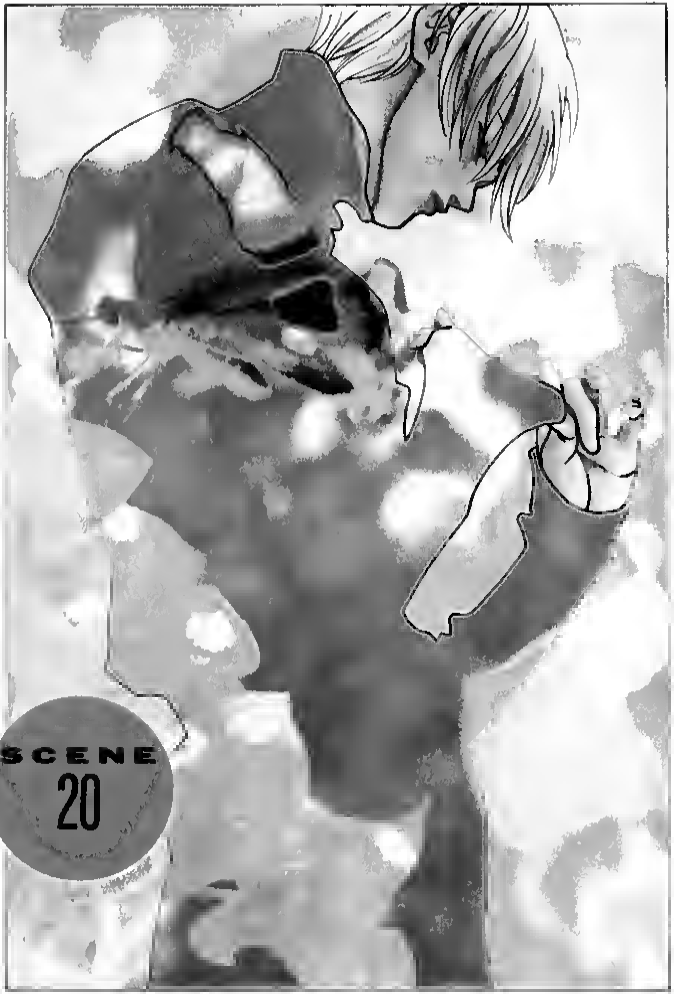
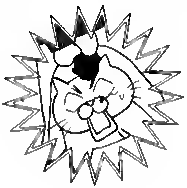

SCENE
20

音楽著作権協会(出)許諾9501335-501号

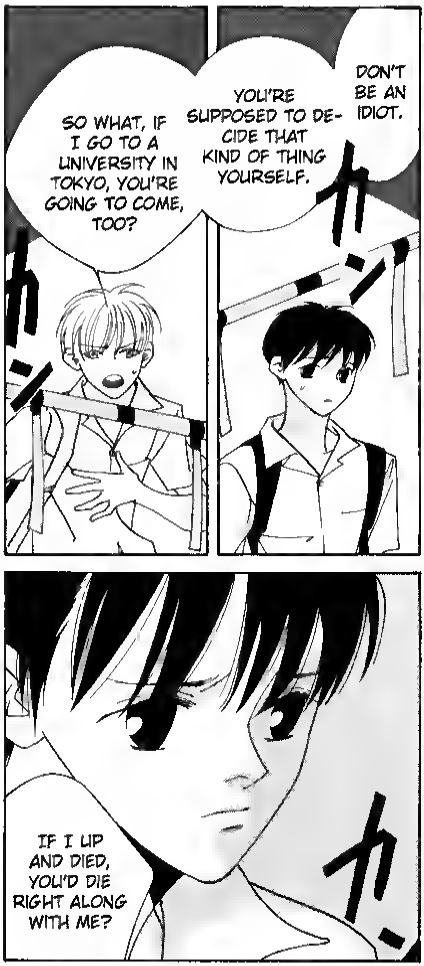
THIS ROAD IS ALWAYS COVERED IN FROGS!
GEEZ. THIS HAPPENS EVERY SUMMER.
WOAH!
RIBBIT



YEAH, I WENT OUT TOTALLY COLD.
YOU WERE SUCH A TROUBLE-MAKER.
THINGS SURE WERE FUN BACK THEN...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THINGS ARE FUN NOW, TOO!
HEY, YOU REMEMBER WHEN I STUFFED THAT BOTTLE WITH THE FROG AND FOR-MALIN IN YOUR FACE?

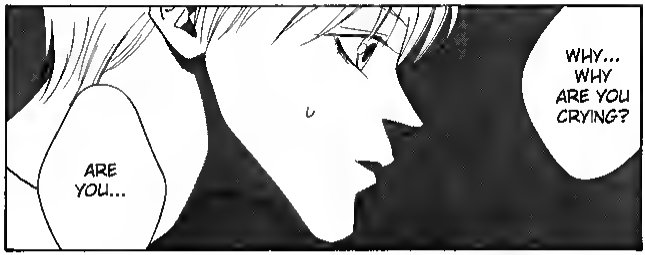
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO START TAKING OUR EXAMS TO GET INTO COLLEGE PRETTY SOON NOW, THOUGH.
YOU THINK SO?
SAY, TAMIO.
カ-ン
DO YOU THINK YOU'LL BE APPLYING FOR?
WHICH COLLEGES...

I...
FOR COLLEGES, I...
I... WAS THINKING I'D LIKE TO GO TO WHATEVER COLLEGE YOU WENT TO...


SO WHAT, IF I GO TO A UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO, YOU'RE GOING TO COME, TOO?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DECIDE THAT KIND OF THING YOURSELF.
DON'T BE AN IDIOT.
カン
カン
カン
IF I UP AND DIED, YOU'D DIE RIGHT ALONG WITH ME?
カン
OH, COME ON.

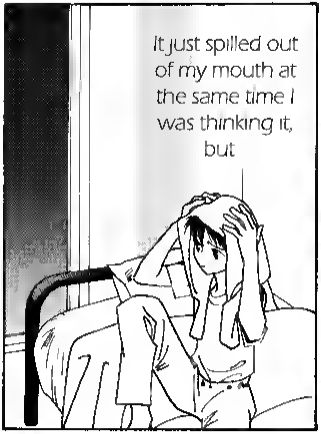
I... I NEVER MEANT ANYTHING THAT EXTREME...
カン
IT'S...
カン
IT'S JUST...

トゥルルン
ボ…


ARE YOU...
WHY... WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

IT'S...
IT'S NOTHING.
THE WIND JUST...
BLEW SOMETHING INTO MY EYE.

BECAUSE I LOVE YOU, TAKASHI!

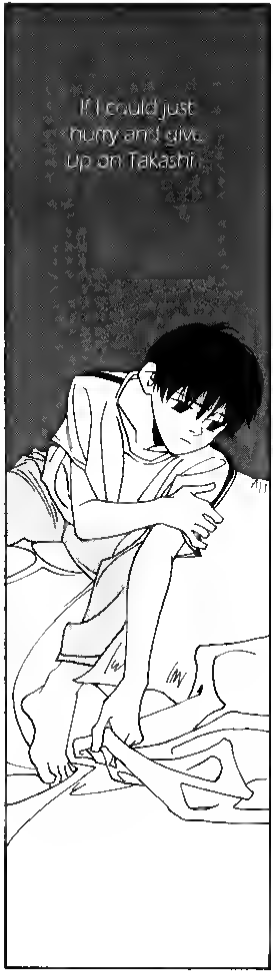

It just spilled out of my mouth at the same time I was thinking it, but

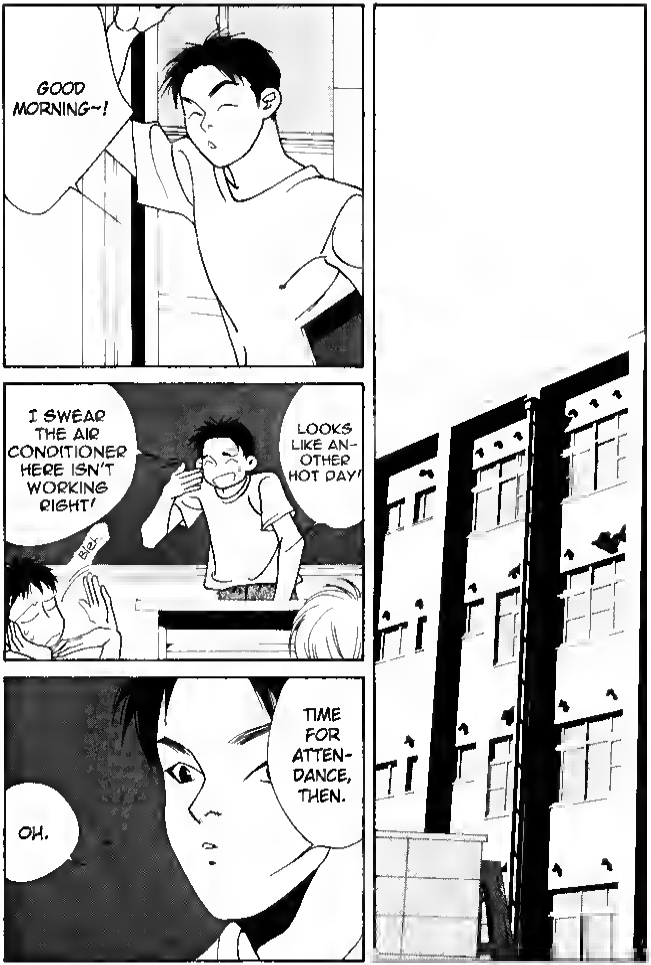
It's like I've got two of me inside myself

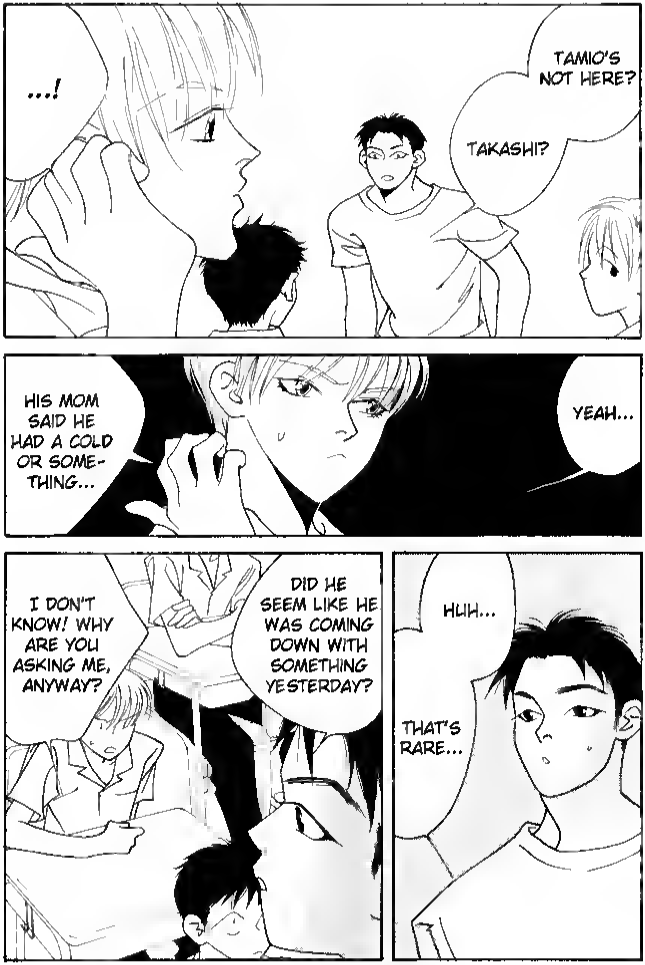
Takashi...
And I can't tell which one is the real me and which isn't

If that happens, not telling him
will end things a lot less painfully

Then I wouldn't have to torture myself over this anymore...




GOOD MORNING~!
I SWEAR THE AIR CONDITIONER HERE ISN'T WORKING RIGHT!
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER HOT DAY!
Ahh...
TIME FOR ATTENDANCE, THEN.
OH.


...!
TAKASHI?
TAMIO'S NOT HERE?
YEAH...
HIS MOM SAID HE HAD A COLD OR SOME-THING...
I DON'T KNOW! WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME, ANYWAY?
DID HE SEEM LIKE HE WAS COMING DOWN WITH SOMETHING YESTERDAY?
HUH...
THAT'S RARE...

How should I know everything about Tamio?

Everything?

Tamio...
The things going through that guy's head...
I don't at all

チャリ
...TAMIO.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU DIDN'T GO TO SCHOOL!
IS IT REALLY OK FOR YOU TO BE OUT HERE?
IF YOU'VE GOT A COLD, YOU SHOULD BE AT HOME RESTING.
....
I CUT CLASS.

GRR
A...
ARE YOU ANGRY? TAKASHI...
turn

IF YOU'RE SKIPPING, THEN TELL ME SO I CAN COME ALONG TOO.

TAKASHI, I...

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU.

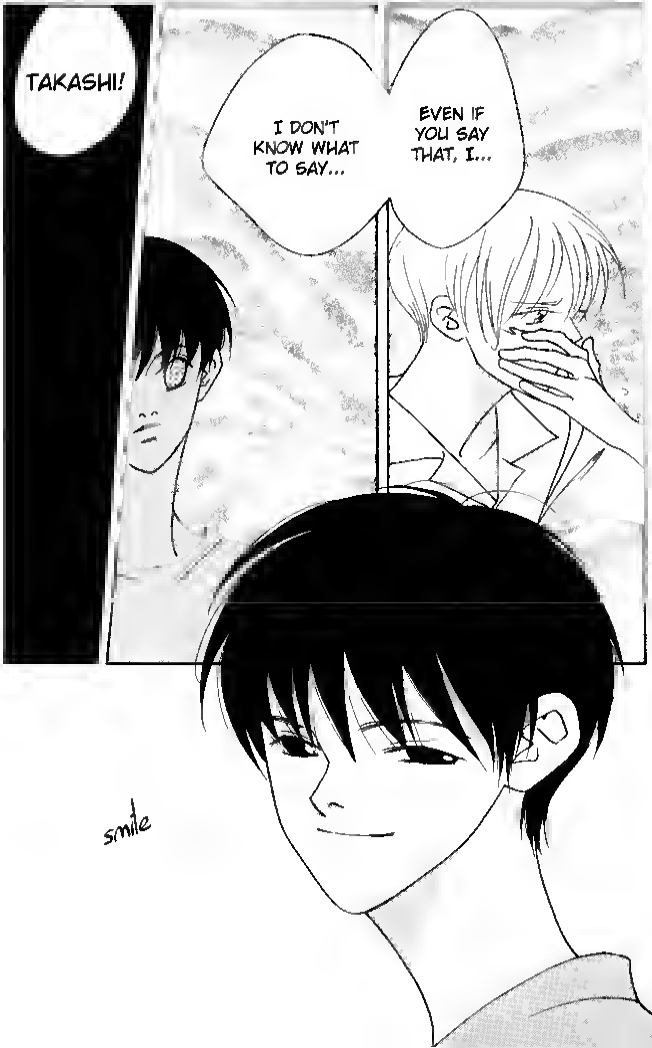
I HAVE BEEN FOR AGES...
PRETTY SURPRISED, RIGHT?

I THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LOT. WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD TELL YOU...
BUT IN THE END, I THOUGHT I SHOULD...

AFTER I DECIDED... I WANTED TO TELL YOU RIGHT AWAY.
SO I WOULDN'T START SECOND GUESSING MYSELF AGAIN SO I WAITED HERE FOR YOU.
TA...
TAMIO,
I...

TAMIO...
IT'S OK...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER...

...I'M SORRY, TAMIO.


TAKASHI!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, I...
smile

IT'S OK.
I UNDERSTAND. WE'LL WALK TO SCHOOL TOGETHER AGAIN TOMORROW, RIGHT?
TAMIO...

SCENE•20——END

未知との遭遇
An Unexpected Encounter

みちとのそうぐう

AN ALIEN IS COMING OUT OF THAT UFO...
I'M SCARED, TAKASHI?
THAT THING...? IT'S...
SO ALIENS REALLY DO EXIST...

Rather than "not sophisticated". Tamie actually calls the alien "mihas-sh." Mihas is a pejorative term for people only interested in low-culture (like celebrities, astrology, or sports) and who tend to latch on to trends.

I'VE COME HERE FROM MARS TO FIND MYSELF A JOB. BUT IT'S MY FIRST TIME AND I DON'T KNOW MY WAY AROUND. WOULD YOU MIND SHOWING ME THE WAY?
NOT AS SOPHISTICATED AS I EXPECTED...
Hair dyed brown.

SUCH A DREARY SOUNDING OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
MAN. THIS SUCKS. THIS JAPANESE LANGUAGE STUFF IS SO HARD~
URK. IT'S GOT SUCH A STRONG KANSAI ACCENT!
UM... COULD I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
THAT'S NOT REALLY THE OFFICIAL WAY TO USE THE LANGUAGE...

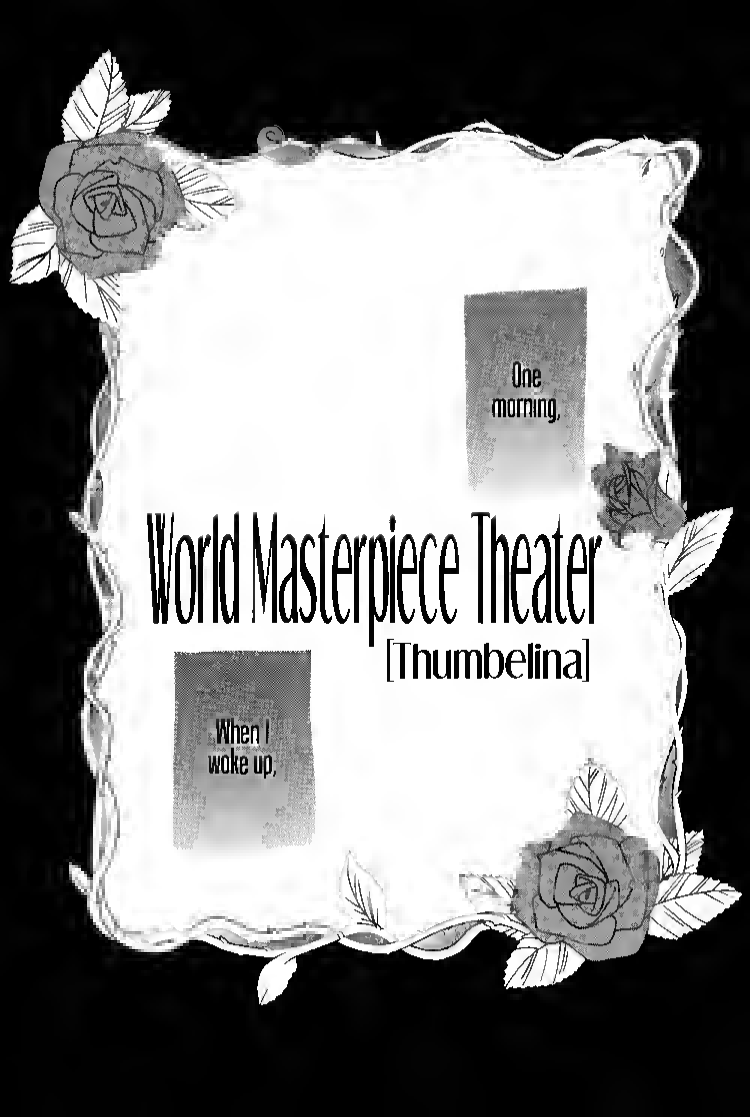
EH?
YOU'VE GOT AN ANIME LIKE THAT ON YOUR PLANET TOO, MISS ALIEN?
OH, THIS? I LEFT IN A HURRY, SO I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO CHANGE.
I'VE GOT A PART TIME JOB AT A FAMILY RESTAURANT. IT'S MY UNI-FORM.
KUMIKO

BEEP BEEP BEEP
Yeah.
That's pretty cool, huh?
YEAH, THEY'RE ALL THE RAGE.
FOR A FAMILY RESTAURANT!?
What's the matter?
BEEP BEEP BEEP
YEAH, IT'S MINE.
IT'S LIKE A PAGER OR SOMETHING...
SAY, WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
BEEP
...

I'M ALMOST OUT OF TIME.
THIS THING'S A RENTAL.
BEEP
GIMMIE A SEC, I'LL BUY SOME MORE TIME.
A RENTAL...
....
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

Kogal ~ A Japanese subculture/fashion. Kogals tend to wear outfits based on school uniforms but with shortened skirts, loose socks, and dyed hair, as well as other fashion accessories.
HELLO? YEAH. I NEED SOME MORE TIME.
HEY, TAMIO. YOU THINK THIS IS A MARTIAN KOGAL?
A KOGAL...

未知との遭遇——END


One morning,
World Masterpiece Theater
[Thumbelina]
When I woke up,

H-HEY! WHO ARE YOU CALLING TA-KASHI!? YOU'LL ADDRESS ME AS PRINCESS!
...THIS IS REALLY INCONVENIENT, TAKASHI.

I found my thumb had turned into a princess.
MOMA-ING.

FROM TODAY ON, I'M GOING TO BE YOUR THUMB PRINCESS.
MAKE SURE TO TREAT ME KINDLY.

Hanko - A Japanese signature stamp. A hanko stamps a family's last name and is usually used for less official documents such as signing for packages (though there are other stamps for more official documents)

ふにゃ
ブロロロ...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I GUESS THAT WORKED OUT ALRIGHT.
フ〜

THE... DOCTOR? ARE WE GOING OUT?
MAYBE I SHOULD GET IT LOOKED AT BY A DOCTOR.

But it's cold.
A GLOVE!? GET IT AWAY!
Palm Reader

YOU OVER THERE!

BUT IT REALLY IS INCONVE-NIENT. FOR EVERYDAY STUFF, I MEAN.
OH YEAH!? WELL YOU JUST GOT PRETTY GOOD USE OUT OF ME JUST NOW!

BLEH~
T-THIS IS...
?

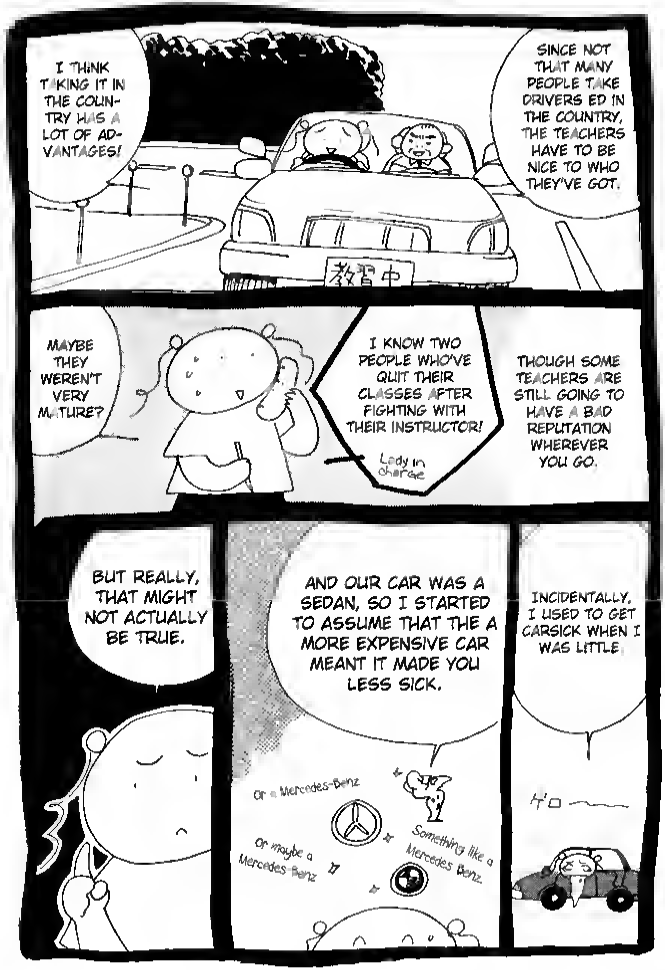
IT SAYS YOU'LL BE HAVING TROUBLE WITH WOMEN.
I KNOW THAT ALREADY.
HEY. SHE WASN'T BAD.
Hey! You didn't pay!
WELCOME!
EH?
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW?
THAT THING'S A PRETTY BAD BOTHER, RIGHT?
Pharma

WE'VE GOT SOME GOOD MEDICINE FOR IT, YOU KNOW.
I HAD THE SAME THING ONCE MYSELF!
Wart remover
GYA~~!
splut

世界迷作劇場——END

I WANT TO RIDE A CAR!

THIS SUMMER, I GOT A DRIVER'S LICENSE.
THOUGH I CAN ONLY DRIVE AN AUTOMATIC.
I LIVE IN WAKAYAMA NOW, AND I BET THE CITY DRIVER'S CLASS WOULD HAVE BEEN A LOT HARDER.
NOW, I THINK IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A GOOD THING I DIDN'T TRY TO TAKE IT IN OSAKA.
ACTUALLY, I WAS GOING TO DRIVERS ED IN OSAKA TWO YEARS AGO,
BUT I GOT DISCOURAGED IN THE MIDDLE OF IT.
FOR STARTERS THEY LET YOU DRIVE BEFORE EVEN TEACHING YOU THE PROCEDURES
AND THEN THEY'LL YELL AT YOU FOR GETTING THINGS WRONG WHEN THEY HAVEN'T TAUGHT YOU WHAT'S RIGHT
IT'S TERRIBLE


I THINK TAKING IT IN THE COUNTRY HAS A LOT OF ADVANTAGES!
SINCE NOT THAT MANY PEOPLE TAKE DRIVERS ED IN THE COUNTRY, THE TEACHERS HAVE TO BE NICE TO WHO THEY'VE GOT.
教習中
MAYBE THEY WEREN'T VERY MATURE?
I KNOW TWO PEOPLE WHO'VE QUIT THEIR CLASSES AFTER FIGHTING WITH THEIR INSTRUCTOR!
Lady in charge
THOUGH SOME TEACHERS ARE STILL GOING TO HAVE A BAD REPUTATION WHEREVER YOU GO.
BUT REALLY, THAT MIGHT NOT ACTUALLY BE TRUE.
AND OUR CAR WAS A SEDAN, SO I STARTED TO ASSUME THAT THE A MORE EXPENSIVE CAR MEANT IT MADE YOU LESS SICK.
Or a Mercedes-Benz
Something like a Mercedes Benz.
Or maybe a Mercedes-Benz
INCIDENTALLY, I USED TO GET CARSICK WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
H'o

A WHILE AGO, I RENTED A PAJERO WHEN I WAS IN HOKKAIDO.
AND AS IT TURNS OUT, IT'S TALLER CARS THAT MAKE YOU LESS SICK!
I SUPPOSE IT MIGHT NOT BE TRUE FOR EVERYONE,
BUT SITTING IN THE SEATS OF TALLER CARS IS A LOT MORE LIKE BEING IN A NORMAL CHAIR!
You can even look down when it's moving
IN A SEDAN OR SPORTS CAR,
MAYBE I GET SICK BECAUSE MY LEGS GET ALL SCRUNCHED UP, AND MY STOMACH GETS ALL TENSE?
EVEN THOUGH I'M PRONE TO CAR SICKNESS, I ALWAYS LIKE TO RIDE CARS!
SO FOR ANYONE ELSE LIKE ME, I RECOMMEND TALLER CARS!
ACTUALLY, SINCE I LIKED THIS CAR SO MUCH, I ENDED UP BUYING IT!
I CAN EVEN SLEEP INSIDE IT WHEN I GO ON ROAD TRIPS!

I WANT TO RIDE A CAR!——END

［初出］
SCENE 17 ―月刊「ASUKA」1995年2月号掲載
SCENE 18 ―月刊「ASUKA」1995年4月号掲載
SCENE 19 ―月刊「ASUKA」1995年6月号掲載
SCENE 20 ―月刊「ASUKA」1995年8月号掲載
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世界一迷作劇場 ―増刊ASUKA「㊙コメディー」1995年冬休み号掲載
車にのりたい！ ―描きおろし

ASUKA COMICS DELUXE
ぼくたち男の子 5

著者 ―こなみ詔子
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発行者 角川歷彦

発行所 ―株式会社角川書店
〒102 東京都千代田区富士見2-13-3
振替◆00130-9-195208
電話◆編集部03-3222-7966
営業部03-3817-8521

装丁 納由香里

印刷 ―旭印刷株式会社

製本 ―株式会社多摩文庫

初版発行 ―1995年10月1日

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ISBN4-04-852551-4 C0979

Printed in Japan

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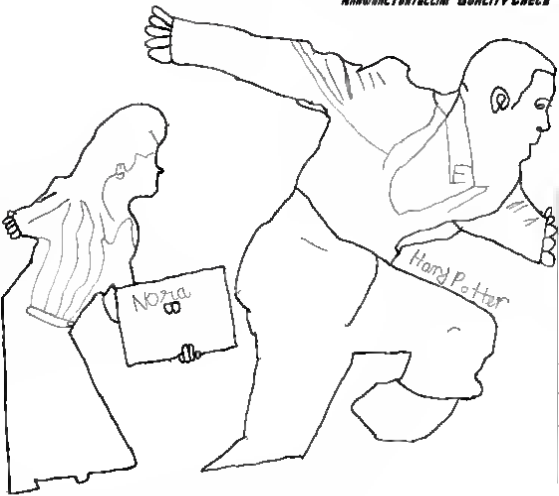
NarwhalTortellim Scanner
NarwhalTortellim Translator
Arianna Editor
NarwhalTortellim Quality Check



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